



# Maryland and Delaware

## Media Summary

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### Late-Season Conditions Lower Soybean Yields In Maryland And Delaware

The dry weather that affected the Mid-Atlantic Region in September has reduced yields for this year's soybean crop. This is according to a report released October 12<sup>th</sup> by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and is based on October 1 crop conditions. Corn was not affected significantly by the dry weather since most of the crop had matured by the time the drought set in. Corn fields in Maryland are yielding slightly more than expected, while yield projections for Delaware remain unchanged.

**Maryland:** Maryland soybeans are now forecast to yield 35 bushels per acre, down 4 bushels from September's estimate. With 470,000 acres of soybeans expected to be harvested, total production is estimated at 16.45 million bushels. According to the Crop and Weather report for the week ending October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 78 percent of the crop had turned color and 57 percent had dropped their leaves, as compared with the 5-year average of 66 percent and 37 percent, respectively. Yields for corn are now expected to reach 140 bushels per acre, up 5 bushels from the September forecast. Of the 470,000 acres planted, 400,000 acres are expected to be harvested for grain resulting an estimated 56 million bushels of grain crop statewide. According to the Crop and Weather report for the week ending October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 92 percent of the state's corn was mature with 42 percent of the crop harvested.

**Delaware:** Yield for soybeans in Delaware is now forecast at 31 bushels per acre, down 7 bushels from September's forecast. The number of acres planted to soybeans is estimated at 185,000 acres, with 182,000 acres expected for harvested resulting in a total production of 5.64 million bushels. The crop matured early this year. As of October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 88 percent of the soybean acreage had turned color and 76 percent of the crop had dropped its leaves, compared with the five-year averages of 60 percent and 39 percent, respectively. Soybean harvest was just underway at the time of the survey. The forecast for Delaware corn production remains unchanged from September at 20.55 million bushels. According to the Crop and Weather report for the week ending October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 69 percent of the corn crop was harvested, ahead of the 5-year average of 51 percent.

**United States:** Corn production is forecast at 10.9 billion bushels, up 2 percent from last month but 8 percent below 2004. If realized, this would be the second largest crop on record. Based on conditions as of October 1, yields are expected to average 146.1 bushels per acre, up 2.9 bushels from September but 14.3 bushels below last year. Forecast yields are either unchanged or higher than last month in all forecasting States, except Alabama and Mississippi. As harvest progresses, producers are finding the warm, dry conditions during July and August did not reduce yields as much as originally expected. Yields are better than last year in the northern tier States but are still well below last year's record highs in the central and eastern Corn Belt. Based on administrative information, acreage updates were made in several States and farmers now expect to harvest 74.3 million acres of corn for grain, up 15,000 acres from September and up 1 percent from 2004.

Soybean production is forecast at 2.97 billion bushels, up 4 percent from the September forecast but 5 percent below 2004. Based on conditions as of October 1, yield is expected to average 41.6 bushels per acre, up 2.0 bushels from September but 0.6 bushel below last year's record high yield. Below-normal temperatures and adequate moisture during August and early September across most of the Corn Belt, Great Plains, and Delta were beneficial to the crop during the final stages of development. Above-normal temperatures followed for the rest of September, just in time for the harvest season to begin. Based on administrative data, acreage updates were made in several States. Area planted is now estimated at 72.2 million acres, down 903,000 acres from the August estimate. Area for harvest is forecast at 71.3 million acres, down 914,000 acres from September.

**ACREAGE, YIELD AND PRODUCTION 2004 AND 2005**

Commodity	Unit	Planted		Harvested		Average Yield		Production	
		2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005	2004	2005
<b>Maryland</b>		<b>1,000 Acres</b>						<b>1,000</b>	
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	490	470	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	425	400	153	140	65,025	56,000
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	60	----	20	----	1,200	----
Soybeans	BU	500	480	495	470	43	35	21,285	16,450
Winter Wheat	BU	160	155	145	145	59	66	8,555	9,570
Barley	BU	42	46	39	41	73	86	2,847	3,526
All Hay	TON	----	----	215	200	2.65	----	570	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	40	40	3.30	----	132	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	175	160	2.50	----	438	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	4.7	3.5	4.6	3.4	260	250	1,196	850
Peaches	TON	----	----	----	----	----	----	4.1	4.2
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	34,100	30,000
<b>Delaware</b>									
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	160	160	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	153	150	152	137	23,256	20,550
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	6	----	17	----	102	----
Soybeans	BU	210	185	208	182	42	31	8,736	5,642
Winter Wheat	BU	50	52	47	51	58	70	2,726	3,570
Barley	BU	29	29	26	27	80	81	2,080	2,187
All Hay	TON	----	----	14	15	2.93	----	41	----
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	6	6	3.90	----	23	----
Other Hay	TON	----	----	8	9	2.30	----	18	----
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	3.3	3.0	3.1	2.9	260	230	806	667
<b>United States</b>								<b>1,000,000</b>	
Corn <sup>1</sup>	ACR	80,930	81,642	----	----	----	----	----	----
Corn Grain	BU	----	----	73,632	74,333	160	146	11,807	10,857
Corn Silage	TON	----	----	6,103	----	18	----	107	----
Soybeans	BU	75,208	72,200	73,958	71,270	42	42	3,124	2,967
Wheat, Winter	BU	43,350	40,320	34,462	33,680	44	44	1,499	1,494
Barley	BU	4,527	3,922	4,021	3,276	70	65	280	212
All Hay	TON	----	----	61,916	61,723	2.55	2.48	158	153
Alfalfa Hay	TON	----	----	21,707	22,118	3.47	3.43	75	76
Other Hay	TON	----	----	40,209	39,605	2.05	1.94	82	77
Potatoes, Summer	CWT	58.4	50.3	53.9	48.3	340	334	18	16
Peaches	TON	----	----	----	----	----	----	1.3	1.2
Apples	LBS	----	----	----	----	----	----	10,420	9,379

<sup>1</sup>Acres planted is for all purposes.